

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 BIB-01 /079 W

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R 240650Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2103

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CH US UR XJ

SUBJECT: NCNA COMMENTARY ON SOVIET-US RIVALRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

RF: HONG KONG 11133 (NOTAL)

1. IN THE FIRST PRC DOMESTIC MEDIA COMMENTARY ON SOUTHERN AFRICA IN ALMOST A MONTH, NCNA SEPTEMBER 23 PREDICTABLY DIRECTS MOST OF ITS FIRE TOWARD THE SOVIET UNION UNDER THE GENERAL RUBRIC OF INTENSIFIED SOVIET-US RIVALRY IN THE AREA. US MOVES ARE DESCRIBED AS BASICALLY REACTIVE TO THE INCREASING SOVIET

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PRESSURE. THE COMMENTARY CONCLUDES ON THE RATHER BLAND NOTE

THAT THE SUPERPOWER STRUGGLE WILL FURTHER ROUSE THE AFRICAN PEOPLE TO FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM AND HEGEMONISM.

2. SIGNIFICANTLY, SOVIET EXPANSIONISM IS LINKED TO WESTERN LACK OF WILL. MOSCOW'S "HEW TSARS" ARE ACCUSED OF "FEVERISHLY STEPPING UP THEIR INFILTRATION AND EXPANSION IN THE CONTINENT IN THE PAST FEW YEARS BY TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE APPEASEMENT TENDENCY PREVAILING IN THE WEST..." SOUTHERN AFRICA IS CALLED THEIR "NEXT TARGET OF ATTACK" FOLLOWING THE "ENCROACHMENT ON ANGOLA."

3. FOLLOWING A SIX-PARAGRAPH LISTING OF SOVIET SINS IN AFRICA, THE COMMENTARY NOTES THAT IN THE FACE OF THIS "AGGRESSIVE OFFENSIVE", THE US "IMPERIALISTS" ARE COMPELLED TO ADJUST THEIR POLICY. THE SECRETARY'S SPRING TRIP TO AFRICA IS REPORTED, ALONG WITH THOSE OF DEFENSE SECRETARY RUMSFELD, ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFELD AND GOVERNOR SCRANTON. IN ITS FIRST COMMENT ON THE SECRETARY'S MOST RECENT TOUR, NCNA STATES: "RECENTLY, KISSINGER MADE ANOTHER SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY TOUR TO AFRICA IN ORDER TO "MEET GROWING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN THE REGION AND TO SAFEGUARD US INTERESTS THERE." THE COMMENTARY NOTES THE SOVIETS WERE "GREATLY ANNOYED" BY THESE US MOVES, AND EXPRESSED THEIR "FEAR" IN A RECENT IZVESTIA ARTICLE. IF THE US MOVES "ANNOYED" THE RUSSIANS, THEN BY PRC LIGHTS THEY CANNOT BE ALL BAD. CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HONGK11167
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760362-0108
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760924/aaaaaudy.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NCNA COMMENTARY ON SOVIET-US RIVALRY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA RF: HONG KONG 11133 (NOTAL)
TAGS: PFOR, CH, US, UR, XJ, SF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006